

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 NSC-05

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OFA-01 H-02 PRS-01

EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AGR-05 COME-00 /062 R

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P 101909Z JUL 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:UR, US, EWT

SUBJ: SOVIET OFFICIALS DENY USSR INTENTION TO PURCHASE

GRAIN IN US.

FOR SONNENFELDT AND GARRISON

1. FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, DURING RECEPTION FOR SOVIET
FISHERIES DELEGATION AT DEPARTMENT LAST NIGHT, CHARGE
VORONTSOV AND MINISTER VASEV TOLD ACTING DIRECTOR SOV THAT
PRESS REPORTS TO THE CONTRARY, SOVIETS HAVE NO INTENTION
OF PURCHASING GRAIN ON US MARKET.

2. COMMENT: USDA OFFICIALS QUESTION HOW WELL INFORMED
EMBASSY IS ON SOVIET GRAIN IMPORT INTENTIONS AND CONTINUE
TO BELIEVE SOVIET PURCHASES ARE POSSIBLE. BOTH CIA AND
USDA HAVE REVISED SOVIET CROP ESTIMATES DOWNWARD TO
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210 MILLION TONS AND 195 MILLION TONS RESPECTIVELY. CIA

NOW ESTIMATES SOVIET WORLD-WIDE GRAIN IMPORT REQUIREMENTS
AT BETWEEN 5 AND 10 MILLION TONS, PRIMARILY FOR FEEDGRAINS;
USDA ESTIMATES ARE SOMEWHAT HIGHER.

3. MEANWHILE, SENATOR JACKSON MADE STATEMENT THIS MORNING THAT SENATE INVESTIGATORS HAD CONFIRMED THAT SOVIETS ARE NEGOTIATING WITH MAJOR US GRAIN EXPORTERS FOR "SEVERAL

MILLION TONS OF GRAIN, SOME OR ALL OF WHICH WOULD COME FROM THIS YEAR'S AMERICAN HARVEST." INGERSOLL

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